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# Message Text

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42
ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 CPR-01 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

EB-03 INR-5 DRC-01 RSC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 /043 W
---------- 110279
O P 121600Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6974
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2452

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (WILLIAMS, ERIC) TD US PFOR
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS' VISIT TO THE U.S.

FOR ASST SEC ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

REF: A) POS 2413
B) STATE 22513
X
CL POS 2451

1. WHILE I RECOGNIZE THAT SECRETARY'S BUSY SCHEDULE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS WOULD MAKE ACCOMMODATION OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO PRIMIN DR. ERIC WILLIAMS DIFFICULT, I AM FRANKLY DISTURBED BY ATTITUDE THAT TENDS TO DISMISS A MEETING BETWEEN WILLIAMS AND SECRETARY AS UN-HELPFUL TO US BECAUSE OF ISSUES SUCH AS CIVIL AVIATION.

2. USG LIKES TO MAKE MUCH OF THE PRESUMED "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WE HAVE WITH LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. HOWEVER, WHEN THE CHIPS ARE
DOWN, A LEADER LIKE WILLIAMS IS GIVEN A MUCH WARMER OFFICIAL WELCOME IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD THAN IN THE UNITED STATES. POLITICS IN THE CARIBEAN AND IN TRINIDAD IS HIGHLY PERSONALIZED. WILLIAMS HIMSELF IS THE SENIOR LEADER OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN AND A MAN OF CONSIDERABLE PRIDE AND SENSE OF PROTOCOL. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED
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THE NEGATIVE RESULTS IN THE PAST OF FAILING TO TAKE SERIOUSLY
INTO ACCOUNT THE ESSENTIALLY COSTLESS REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCORDING
SUCH LEADERS OCCASIONAL DEFERENCE AND PRESTIGIOUS HANDLING
FROM OUR GOVERNMENT.

3. IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE, WILLIAMS WILL BE MAKING A HIGHLY
PUBLICIZED OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA AS THE QUEST OF CHOU EN-LAI,
AND AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO JAPAN WHICH NEVERTHELESS THE GOJ THOUGHT
IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO MAKE HIM THE GUEST OF
THE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

NUMEROUS
IMPORTANT AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL CORPORATIONS
CONSIDER THEIR PROSPECTS FOR INVESTMENTS AND PROXZQ
IN TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO IN THE NEXT DECADE OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO SPEND
CONSIDERABLE MONEY AND EFFORT TO ENTERTAIN WILLIAMS IN OUR
COUNTRY. AT THE SAME TIME THE USG CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN A CORRECT
BUT RELATIVELY DISTANT POSTURE OF SAYING, IN EFFECT, IF HE WANTS

TO COME SEE US THEN WE WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO.

4. LET US NOT DELUDE OURSELVES TO THINK THAT A MAN OF WILLIAMS'
PRIDE WILL EVER ASK THE USG TO INVITE HIM TO COME TO WASHINGTON.
NEVERTHELESS, THE CONTINUING OMISSION OF ANY HIGH-LEVEL
OVERTURES FROM THE USG IS NOTEWORTHY HERE. DR. WILLIAMS HAS NEVER
PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND IF SUCH AN INVITATION HAS
EVER BEEN TENDERED WE ARE NOT AWARE OF IT. CERTAINLY THERE HAS
BEEN NO RECENT OVERTURE.

5. I RECOMMEND THAT WE SERIOUSLY ASSESS THE IMPORTANCE OF SOME
FORM OF INVITATION TO WILLIAMS IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. MOST
EFFECTIVE, OF COURSE, WOULD BE AN OFFICIAL VISIT, BUT NATURALLY THIS
TAKES SOME TIME TO ORGANIZE AND GET ON THE WASHINGTON SCHEDULE. GIVEN
WILLIAMS' INCREASING TRAVELS TO THE UNITED STATES ON INFORMAL TRIPS,
IT IS IMPORTANT THAT AT THE VERY LEAST A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE
SECRETARY GO TO HIM EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT HE CAN INCLUDE WASHINGTON

ON HIS NEXT TRIP.

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6. THEREFORE, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT A PERSONAL MESSAGE BE SENT
TO WILLIAMS FROM PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY TAKING NOTE OF HIS FORTH-
COMING EXTENDED TRAVELS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CLOSE TIES
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WHICH THIS TRAVEL REPRESENTS. SUGGEST
THAT MESSAGE BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN ISSUING AN INVITATION
FOR WILLIAMS AT LEAST TO INCLUDE WASHINGTON ON HIS NEXT VISIT,
EXPRESSING REGRET THAT HIS ALREADY COMPLETED SCHEDULE APPARENTLY
PRECLUDES SUCH A MEETING AT THIS TIME. I DO NOT BELIEVE WILLIAMS

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WILL SET FOOT IN WASHINGTON UNTIL HE RECEIVES SUCH AN INVITATION.

7. THESE IS LITTLE REASON WE NEED FEAR THAT A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH WILLIAMS WOULD DEGENERATE INTO DIFFICULT EXCHANGE OVER CIVIL AVIATION, ALTHOUGH UNDOUBTEDLY SUBJECT COULD BE RAISED. WE HAVE BEEN REPORTING CIVIL AIR MATTERS EXTENSIVELY, BUT YOU WILL NOTE THAT THERE IS CLEAR AND DEEP AWARENESS HERE THAT THE PRIMARY PROBLEM FOR TRINIDAD ON CIVIL AIR SIDE IS WITH CARICOM NEIGHBORS. MATTERS OF GREATER MOMENT FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH WILLIAMS ARE OVERALL OAS THEMES; CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION AND MECHANISMS FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE TO LESS AFFLUENT CARICOM NEIGHBORS (GOTT IS EMERGING AS SIGNIFICANT PROVIDER OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT); GOTT INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION PROGRAM; ROLE OF MNC'S; ENERGY AND THE TERMS OF TRADE; TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY; AND CUBA. MOST IMPORTANT, OF COURSE WOULD BE TO PUT GREATER REALITY INTO TOUTED SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THROUGH SPIRIT OF HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION ON BROAD ISSUES OF CONCERN TO OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THIS PART OF WORLD.

E* GIVEN
DR. WILLIAMS' VERY HIGH REGARD FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER, A MEETING WITH SECRETARY WOULD GO FAR TOWARD CEMENTING MORE POSITIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS WHICH IT HAS BEEN MY MISSION TO DEVELOP. TRINIDAD IS EMERGING AS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT

NATION IN CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS IN VIEW OF EXPANDING PETROLEUM AND INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH.
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# Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 12 OCT 1974
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